

**European Association for the Study of Religion (EASR) General  
Assembly Linnasmäki Conference Centre, Turku, 18 August 2005**

MINUTES

In the absence of the President, who was unable to attend, Professor Nils Holm, President of the Finnish Society for the Study of Religion, chaired the meeting.

**1. Adoption of final agenda**

It was accepted that notice of the General Assembly had been given according to the Constitution of the EASR.<sup>i</sup> Notice of the General Assembly was given by electronic mail on 11 May 2005. The Assembly was deemed to be quorate according to the Constitution, with more than twenty one members present ten of whom were committee members.<sup>ii</sup> The published agenda was adopted. The General Secretary had been sent no additional items for inclusion by the due date.

**2. Reports by the President and the General Secretary**

In an e-mail communication the President sent her apologies and greetings to everyone at the General Assembly. She expressed her thanks to members of the EASR Executive Committee for their work during the year. The General Secretary warmly thanked the conference organising committee in Turku, the Dönnert Institute and the Finnish Society for the Study of Religion for their hard work in preparing for and running the 2005 conference. She gave a report of the activities of the Association and the work of the Executive Committee in 2004-05, including reporting on the minutes on its meeting of 16 August 2005. Her report was accepted by the General Assembly and is available on the EASR website, [www.easr.de](http://www.easr.de). The President and General Secretary of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), both of whom were present, supplemented the report of the General Secretary by providing an update on current IAHR activities.

**3. Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer sent his apologies. The annual financial overview and report of subscriptions by member associations from 2001-05, prepared for the General Assembly by the Treasurer, were presented by the General Secretary. The accounts showed a positive balance of €6,726.30, of which €1,900.00 was earmarked for the bursary fund. The Treasurer reminded members of the importance of limiting costs and of timely payment of annual dues, the legal requirement of membership of the Chamber of Commerce in The Hague, and the funding of this year's conference bursaries. The Treasurer's report was accepted by the General Assembly. The Executive Committee's recommendation to increase the Bursary Fund to €3,000.00 for 2006 was accepted.

**4. Any other business**

The representative of the Romanian Association for the History of Religions

(Asociaia romani de istorie a religiilor) informed the General Assembly of the theme of the sixth EASR Conference to be held in Bucharest, Romania, in September 2006 (The Religious History of Europe and Asia: Past, Present and Future). The date of the conference and call for papers will be announced in due course on both the EASR and conference websites. The General Assembly was then closed.(Kim Knott, EASR General Secretary)

[i]EASR Constitution, Article 5, iv, "Notice of a meeting of the General Assembly shall be given by the general secretary. When notice is given not less than 90 days in advance of the General Assembly a widely available form of communication such as a printed bulletin or an electronic medium is sufficient. If the period of notice is shorter, notice must be sent to all members individually in writing. The minimum period of notice is 30 days by postmark. Non-receipt of notice by one or more members shall not invalidate the decisions of the meeting."

[ii]The EASR Constitution states that "the minimum number of members required for a meeting of the General Assembly (quorum) shall be twenty, of whom at least seven shall be members of the current committee" (Article 5, vi). Participation and voting rights depend on valid current membership, i.e. payment of the membership fee no later than May 31, 2005 if no special arrangements have been made with the treasurer or the committee.